

I Claim:

1. In a telecommunication network having a plurality of interconnected switches, a method of adjusting a contracted rate of traffic for a virtual circuit comprising the steps of:
 - a) obtaining statistical data for the plurality of interconnected switches;
 - b) identifying for each of the plurality of interconnected switches, virtual circuits that make excessive use of the network; and
 - c) adjusting the contracted rate of traffic to form a modified contracted rate of traffic.
2. The method of claim 1, wherein the telecommunication network comprises a frame relay network.
3. The method of claim 1, wherein the telecommunication network comprises an asynchronous transfer mode network.
4. The method of claim 1, wherein the virtual circuit comprises a permanent virtual circuit.
5. The method of claim 1, wherein the telecommunication network comprises a packet switched network.
6. The method of claim 1, wherein the contracted rate of traffic comprises a committed information rate.
7. The method of claim 1, wherein step a) includes downloading statistical data found on a website.

8. The method of claim 7, wherein the statistical data found on a website includes a predetermined number of months of the network statistical data.
9. The method of claim 8, wherein the predetermined number of months comprises three months.
10. The method of claim 1, wherein the statistical data comprises bulkstats.
11. The method of claim 1, wherein step b) further comprises the steps of:
 - a) counting the number of data points i , in n samples that exceed a threshold value R_1 ; and
 - b) if the number of i data points divided by the total number of samples is greater than or equal to R_2 , then adjusting the CIR.
12. The method of claim 11, wherein R_1 is a value of approximately 25 percent.
13. The method of claim 11, wherein R_1 is a value of at least 18 percent.
14. The method of claim 11, wherein R_2 is a value of approximately 20 percent.
15. The method of claim 11, wherein R_2 is a value of at least 10 percent.
16. The method of claim 1, wherein step c) further comprises the step of: using a discrete probability model to determine a modified contracted information rate.
17. The method of claim 1, wherein step c) further comprises the step of: using a continuous probability distribution model to determine a modified contracted information rate.

18. A computer-readable medium having computer-executable instructions for performing steps comprising:

- a) obtaining statistical data for a plurality of interconnected network switches;
- b) identifying for each of the plurality of interconnected switches, virtual circuits that make excessive use of the network; and
- c) adjusting the contracted rate of traffic to form a modified contracted rate of traffic.

19. The computer-readable medium of claim 18, wherein the virtual circuit comprises a permanent virtual circuit.

20. The computer-readable medium of claim 18, wherein the contracted rate of traffic comprises a committed information rate.

21. The computer-readable medium of claim 18, wherein step a) includes downloading statistical data found on a website.

22. The computer-readable medium of claim 21, wherein the statistical data found on a website includes a predetermined number of months of the network switch statistics.

23. The computer-readable medium of claim 22, wherein the predetermined number of months comprises three months.

24. The computer-readable medium of claim 18, wherein the statistical data comprises bulkstats.

25. The computer-readable medium of claim 18, wherein step b) further comprises the steps of:

- a) counting the number of data points i , in n samples that exceed a threshold value R_I ; and

b) if the number of i data points divided by the total number of samples is greater than or equal to R_2 , then adjusting the CIR.

26. The computer-readable medium of claim 25, wherein R_1 is a value of approximately 25 percent.
27. The computer-readable medium of claim 25, wherein R_1 is a value of at least 18 percent.
28. The computer-readable medium of claim 25, wherein R_2 is a value of approximately 20 percent.
29. The computer-readable medium of claim 25, wherein R_2 is a value of at least 10 percent.
30. The computer-readable medium of claim 18, wherein step c) further comprises the step of:
using a discrete probability model to determine a modified contracted information rate.
31. The computer-readable medium of claim 18, wherein step c) further comprises the step of:
using a continuous probability distribution model to determine a modified contracted information rate.